



SOUTHWEST REGION LICC REPORT ~ NOVEMBER 14, 2003

First Steps Facilitator: Becky Taggart, representing 27 counties

Regional LICC status:

Active LICCs: 10 active LICCs incorporating 20 counties

Inactive LICCs: 1 inactive LICCs incorporating 2 counties (Newton & McDonald)

LICCs in development: 5 counties out of 27 not represented (Dallas, Douglas, Ozark, Texas, and Wright)

Primary Outcomes of LICCs:

1. Public awareness of the program and the contact point/SPOE
2. Establishing a well-functioning Child Find system
3. Increasing the number of providers to meet the needs of families and allow choices for families of children with disabilities
4. Provider Support
5. Recruiting members and increasing the consistency of attending Council membership with members from a variety of backgrounds, especially parents.
6. Establishing by-laws for the LICC
7. Locating community resources & community participation in the LICC

Summary of activities and accomplishments:

- Barry/Lawrence LICC ~ provided brochures with the local SPOE phone number to area communities, featured FS on community spotlight of a local radio station in October, and had articles in all the local papers, cable stations and radio stations, resulting in an increase in the number of referrals, and compiling a list of red flags/milestones for parents/caregivers/ teachers,
- Barton/Dade LICC ~ Making a list of area organizations, agencies, businesses, schools and medical offices to supply with brochures and trying to increase membership as attendance has decreased over the past year.
- Benton/Henry/St. Clair LICC ~ Rotate location of meetings to involve more members in each county, so attendance varies, providers and parents interested in attending but unable to do so due to work load, hosted training in September for child care providers for child find and to increase membership, and had forms training video available one meeting. Also working on attracting providers to the area.
- Camden/Laclede LICC~ Meeting in September discussed transition to ECSE.
- Tri-Lakes First Steps Coordination Council (Cedar, Polk, and Hickory) ~ due to a vacancy a new chairperson was elected, child care training was scheduled, discussed member recruitment using civic organization presentations, flyers and news briefs.
- Greene/Christian LICC ~ Completed by-laws and trying to involve Christian county school system and PAT.
- Jasper LICC ~ Passed and adopted by-laws. Continue to have good attendance at monthly meetings including two parents, six community agencies, and two service providers. Now have "voting" members per by-laws.
- Phelps/Pulaski LICC ~ See SE facilitator's report.
- Children's Resource Connections (Stone & Taney) ~ Meetings rotate between Taney and Stone counties to promote attendance. Attending members include three service coordinators, an OT, SPP, DT, two company administrators, an ECSE teacher, and a child inclusion specialist from CCRR. Some of these members also attend other LICC meetings to work together with the other counties in the same SPOE area. Completed by-laws, held office elections, set monthly agendas, contacting college for community fair information, contacting local hospital regarding including First Steps brochures in gift bags for newborns. Will be focusing on LICC outcomes now that by-laws are finished and officers elected.
- Texas County ~ FSF attending TEAM meeting and will be contacting area hospital staff regarding enrolling as First Steps providers. Serving on committee to recruit more providers to the county.
- Webster LICC ~ Met with local school districts, PAT, ECSE teachers, daycares and head start centers and provided brochures to increase public awareness of FS. Mailed letters to doctors with brochures. Chairperson attended local TEACH meetings to increase public awareness and community support for FS.

SOURCE/DATE	CONCERN	ACTION TAKEN	PENDING
05/03 SICC report	Children are not receiving services due to lack of providers	FSFs recruiting providers and SCs offer compensatory services as needed; request sent to webreply asking whether providers can start without background results	X
05/03 SICC report	Problems with authorizations & billing	Dese will send a listserve after SICC meeting 11-03 regarding what concerns are being addressed	X
05/03 SICC report	Need brochures /funding for brochures	Brochures sent to printers	X
05/03 SICC report	Decreased reimbursement for providers		X
07/11/2003 SICC report	Need translators & audiologists	FSF enrolled 1 bi-lingual translator & 2 interpreters for the deaf, and 3 are waiting for screening results	X -still need audiologists and waiting to see if billing issue is resolved for one agency
07/11/2003 SICC report	More forms training	Forms video received 7-16-03 and available on webpage	Completed
07/11/2003 SICC report	Need support system for providers outside the LICC meetings		X
09-12-03 SICC report	Start SC conference calls	Topics requested	X
09-12-03 SICC report	Publish announcements on listserve when matrix is changed		X
09-12-03 SICC report	Put payment dates on website	FSF found under Provider Service Matrix, Help	Completed
09-12-03 SICC report	Payment for home visits when families do not show up		X
09-12-03 SICC report	way to join listserve by e-mail instead of phone call		X

09-12-03 SICC report	Privacy issues regarding requesting Medicaid numbers		X
09-12-03 SICC report	Decreased reimbursement and travel expenses causing providers to withdraw		X
09-12-03 SICC report	Post LICC meeting dates on webpage		X
09-12-03 SICC report	Concern over changes in Medicaid regarding using home health care and First Steps		X
09-12-03 SICC report	Need forms in Spanish	Being developed.	X
09-12-03 SICC report	Billing is too time consuming	Expect online billing next year	X
09-12-03 SICC report	Difficult to find new providers on matrix	E-mail addresses and counties of service required in October, but not enforced yet	X
09-12-03 SICC report	Service coordinators are frustrated w/paperwork	Expect online billing next year	X
09-12-03 SICC report	Service coordinators are frustrated with slow reimbursement	Expect online billing next year	X
09-12-03 SICC report	LICC needs help locating funding		X
10-07-03 Stone/Taney LICC	Requested space on LICC brochure for local contact info	10-10-03 Lori Conner advised space left on the back of General Informing & LICC brochures for local info	X-have not received new brochures
08-29-03 Webreply	Requested list of developmental milestones	10-08-03 Angie Nickell called and stated she is developing these	X
12 questions sent to webreply between 9-11 & 11-4	Various		X
11-7-03 Stone/Taney LICC	Need SPP in Taney County	FSF planning recruitment mailing	X

11-07-03 Stone/Taney LICC	Little information provided about the new authorization sheets and CPT codes have not been received		X
11-03-03 Jasper LICC	Recruiting new providers is very difficult due to the current providers dissatisfaction.	Providers requested a meeting with DESE staff.	X
11-03-03 Henry, St. Clair, Benton LICC	Referral sources were not making referrals due to lack of providers. LICC chairperson provided information that referrals should be made to document that more providers are needed	FSF is enrolling DT & PT providers, DT is waiting for screening results.	X
11-03-03 Henry, St. Clair, Benton LICC	LICC needs funding for mailings to recruit providers as children are not receiving services		X